REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-51 are pending.

Applicants submit this Second Preliminary Amendment to correct typographical errors and to correct claim dependencies for purposes of clarification unrelated to patentability concerns.

An early examination of this application is requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Georg Seka Reg. No. 24,491

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel:

(415) 576-0200

Fax: (415) 576-0300

JGS:jhw